

City of Cincinnati



Mayor John Cranley

Office of Mayor John Cranley

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May 16, 2019

Dear Members of Council:

I transmit the budget for your consideration with changes that reinforce our commitment to ensuring that all Cincinnatians in every neighborhood can share in our city's renewed prosperity. With this budget, we demonstrate again that we can be fiscally responsible and compassionate at the same time.

City Manager Patrick Duhaney has presented a budget that keeps core city services intact and maintains financial stability. I commend Mr. Duhaney's leadership and I am putting forward changes that provide for the most vulnerable in our city and support continued economic growth. This budget did not come without making choices about where our real priorities lie. I am proud to have accomplished this without layoffs and without cuts to things that matter most.

Most of my amendments are to underscore our commitment to reduce poverty and grow jobs.

In this budget, our investment in human services—which has tripled over the last five years—will continue, as well as our commitment to social justice. I am recommending \$800,000 in funding for emergency wrap around services through Project LIFT, a \$5 million public/private partnership created to remove barriers to self-sufficiency. This program, led by the Childhood Poverty Collaborative, is aimed at providing support to families who face everyday challenges, that could be considered minor to some, but unfortunately prevent them from getting or keeping a job. And I have added \$250,000 for Cincinnati Works to support their job training efforts.

My budget also adds \$200,000 in operating support and \$150,000 in capital funds so that Shelterhouse can transform their 90-day winter shelter into a facility that is open year-round. Shelterhouse operates one of the most cost-effective permanent housing programs in Cincinnati. Eighty percent of those housed do not return to the streets or shelter within two years. I am also recommending an additional \$250,000 be allocated for eviction services so that we can help those who struggle to stay in their homes.

With this budget, funding to fight poverty has increased by more than \$7 million since I took office in 2013.

Last but not least, we must continue to advance the pro-growth policies that have led to thousands of new jobs over the last five years. That is why I am recommending restored funding for REDI Cincinnati, the African American Chamber, Port Authority, MORTAR, CincyTech and Cintrifuse. Additionally, the CDC association that works to advance neighborhood development is also funded in my budget. Our City continues to increase in population and attract jobs, but we cannot grow complacent. It is our responsibility to continue to this momentum.

All my changes to the budget are attached.

I pledge to work with City Council to pass a structurally balanced budget that keeps core services intact, supports human service funding and continues economic growth. Of course, City Council can prepare new ordinances and I will refer these ordinances as long as they are structurally balanced.

Budgets are not simply recitations of what we have done, but what we intend to do. This budget reflects my values. It shows that fiscal responsibility and compassion are not mutually exclusive. It shows that we can run a City that serves its residents and makes the most of the resources they give us despite challenges.

When passed, this will be the sixth consecutive structurally balanced budget of my tenure and I am proud to have achieved this alongside many of you. I look forward to working together to find common ground and pass a budget that we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Cranley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Cranley" clearly distinguishable.

Mayor John Cranley

Mayor Changes to FY 2020 Recommended Operating Budget

Restorations/Additions:

Invest in Neighborhoods	\$	37,500.00
Summer Youth Jobs Initiative	\$	250,000.00
Chamber of Commerce - Immigration Center Partnership	\$	50,000.00
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB)	\$	400,000.00
Cintrifuse	\$	250,000.00
Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI)	\$	250,000.00
African American Chamber of Commerce	\$	325,000.00
CincyTech	\$	250,000.00
Film Commission	\$	56,250.00
MORTAR	\$	65,000.00
CDC Association of Greater Cincinnati	\$	143,000.00
Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance (GCEA)	\$	37,000.00
Cincinnati Works	\$	250,000.00
Needle Exchange Program	\$	150,000.00
Center for Addiction Treatment	\$	46,250.00
Eviction Prevention	\$	250,000.00
Shelterhouse	\$	200,000.00
GeneroCity 513	\$	75,000.00
Restore Administrative Technician Position	\$	76,000.00
Total Restorations/Additions:	\$	3,161,000.00

Sources:

Local Government Fund (LGF)	\$	1,900,000.00
*Affordable Housing Trust Fund (Switched to Capital)	\$	611,000.00
Department Reductions/Position Vacancy Allowance	\$	400,000.00
Billboard Revenue	\$	250,000.00
Total Sources:	\$	3,161,000.00

Mayor Changes to FY 2020 Recommended Capital Budget

Restorations/Additions:

Shelterhouse	\$	150,000.00
*Affordable Housing Capital Projects	\$	611,000.00
Total Restorations/Additions:	\$	761,000.00

Reductions:

Retail/Commercial Opportunities	\$	(250,000.00)
Neighborhood Transportation Strategies	\$	(186,000.00)
Traffic Signals Infrastructure:	\$	(325,000.00)
Total Reductions:	\$	(761,000.00)